



# NATIONAL COMMISSION ON LIBRARIES AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

SUITE 601 • 1717 K STREET, N.W. • WASHINGTON, D.C. 20036 • TELEPHONE (202) 382-6595

FREDERICK H. BURKHARDT  
Chairman

CHARLES H. STEVENS  
Executive Director

## MINUTES

7-8 February 1974

Library of Congress  
Wilson Room

Washington, D.C.

Members Present: Aines, Becker (7th only), Casey, Cuadra, Dunlap, Goland, Lerner (7th only), Lorenz (for Mumford--7th only), Moore, Scott, Velde, Wu and Burkhardt (Chairman)

Staff Present : Cranwell (7th only), Reszetar, Stevens and Swartz

Guests Present : Charlotte Bowman, Consultant to NCLIS;  
Georgette Silva, Research Analyst;  
T. F. McCormick, Public Printer, GPO;  
Wellington Lewis, Superintendent of Documents; GPO

Dr. Burkhardt, presiding, opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m. The minutes were approved as distributed. Dr. Burkhardt introduced Dr. Georgette Silva who, on behalf of NCLIS, is assisting Joseph Becker and the National Program Committee of the Commission. Dr. Burkhardt reviewed his impressions of the Washington State meeting. Burkhardt with Moore, Becker and Swartz discussed the NCLIS program with 330 librarians in Seattle for two days. The tone was positive and the critical comments were friendly and constructive.

### National Program Document

Becker, Swartz and Burkhardt covered the other recent activities of the National Program Committee. Becker covered the details of the revision suggestions that had come to the Commission. Sixty or more letters have been received and arranged for quick access during the redrafting period which is just beginning. Swartz discussed the plans for five small working seminars scheduled for this spring with school librarians, state librarians, information and industry personnel, multistate system directors and Federal information system administrators. Swartz also reported on the Midwinter Meeting visits with ALA leaders in the area of library cooperation and legislative programs.

Some of the questions that must be answered or cleared up in the next version of this document were mentioned:

- (1) The fear of Federal control of information is important. Everyone cherishes his or her access to free information freely available. The spectre of state control is also unwanted.
- (2) Each user group feels that his concerns need broad recognition in the program document yet the document cannot be a panacea. Each group must see, however, that it will be better served through this program.
- (3) Inexact, slanted or unclear language has clouded issues of importance. This must be changed.
- (4) Objectives and goals must be clearly stated and backed-up by the supplementary discussion in the appendices to the document.
- (5) Users and libraries as the focal point of the work must be given their full recognition in the wording of the document.
- (6) Judgmental phrases and words, out of keeping with the Commission's intent, must be eliminated.
- (7) The regional role must be clarified; proposed programs relying on regional service must be built on existing apparatus.
- (8) The central agency described in the document must be better and further defined as to goal, objectives, limits of operation, etc.
- (9) The continuing mission of NCLIS must be clarified.

The preparation of a glossary for the paper is in progress. Topics for subsidiary papers have been written and contacts made with a few of the potential authors. The next draft is to be ready for discussion by the members at the next meeting.

### Library Partnership Act

The Office of Education's Library Partnership Act was discussed as a fragmentary idea since details were not available. Dr. Burkhardt learned from the Office of Management and Budget that the Office of Education is free to clear their plans with NCLIS but this has not occurred except through informal conversations. Dr. Burkhardt will endeavor to communicate with John Ottina to get full information before the proposed text is discussed in an invitational meeting planned for 8 March 1974.

### Meeting Schedule

The Commission adopted the following meeting schedule for 1974-75:

- September 18-20, 1974 - Denver (Mountain/Plains regional hearing plus meeting)
- November 14-15, 1974 - Washington, D.C.
- February 6-7, 1975 - Washington, D.C.
- April 3-4, 1975 - Washington, D.C.
- May 21-23, 1975 - Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (Mid-Atlantic states regional hearing plus meeting)

### Memorial Libraries

The Commission heard a report on a Congressional request for comment on certain bills requesting public funds for memorial libraries for Herbert Hoover, Winston Churchill and Sam Rayburn. The staff prepared a response which suggested that the construction of memorial libraries does not contribute directly to the development of its national program.

### Budget 1974

Present commitments will not exceed the budget of \$406,000 by 30 June 1974. The staff was directed to review the projects awaiting funding and prepare a recommendation for action at or before the San Antonio meeting.

### Budget 1975

The Office of Management and Budget has permitted NCLIS to seek Congressional approval for \$502,000 and nine staff members for 1975. This is an increase of nearly \$100,000 and four persons over FY 1974.

### Denver Conference on Users' Needs

Cuadra reported that the manuscript is still in preparation and that most of it will be completed by mid-February. The Government Printing Office will print the text. Cuadra would like to have it widely available--perhaps in all public libraries.

### Presentation

Mr. Thomas F. McCormick, Public Printer, and Mr. Wellington Lewis, Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, appeared as guests of the Commission and explained the current status of operations within the GPO as those operations touch on libraries. Some of the topics mentioned were document pricing policy, paper prices, depository collections, interactions with users, backlog reduction, building program, contract operations, utilization of micro-technology and the scope of the GPO activity. It is evident that much progress is being made at GPO to overcome the deficiencies brought on in recent years through a combination of circumstances.

### Revenue Sharing

Stevens reported on the recent work of Professors Cole and Caputo to determine the use being made of revenue sharing funds. Their conclusion parallels our own, namely, that about one percent of revenue sharing is reaching libraries. Cole and Caputo will provide a proposal for a sample study of the effect of revenue sharing money on the income of libraries to determine whether revenue sharing has been an incremental addition to or a replacement for local funding. Stevens was asked to determine whether the Office of Education's National Center for Educational Statistics can provide this information to the Commission without charge.

### Visit to Folger Library

Commission members were the guests of Dr. O. B. Hardison, Jr., for a tour of the Folger Shakespeare Library. This independent research library is an example of a bibliographically-rich, endowment-supported collection with extensive services to an important, scholarly but size-limited clientele.

### Annual Report

Copies of the 1973 Annual Report were distributed. Lerner's assistance with cover design and typesetting was gratefully acknowledge. Five thousand copies were printed for NCLIS and 2,500 were printed for GPO although GPO sold more than 3,000 copies of last year's report. A public relations program will be planned for next year's report by Casey and Lerner.

## Contracts

Catholic University. An early draft of the Catholic University recommendations on continuing education is in limited circulation for comment. Commission members suggested that the NCLIS role needs to be reconsidered and that more must be said about nonprofessional librarians.

Government Studies and Services. Stevens, Moore and Velde reported on a joint meeting with the contractor and his advisory committee. The work is on schedule and appears to be useful. Criticisms of specific statements and issues--such as the policy-making role of the library board--were received by G.S.S. in a frank and friendly way. Rod Lane, principal investigator, agreed to seek widespread advice on all of the questioned areas.

Westat. Dunlap, Scott and Stevens reported on the Westat contract and related projects funded by others. Westat has received high marks for their field work done for this contract. They are now collating data and suggesting basic conclusions. The project is on schedule; the NCLIS committee will meet with Westat to see a first draft of the final report before the May meeting of the Commission.

## White House Conference

The legislation for the White House Conference on Library and Information Services is still in House committee. In all probability it will pass the House in February. There is no expectation that the resolution will be enacted speedily by the White House, but the Commission will hold itself in readiness for action should the President choose to do so.

## Executive Session

An Executive Session was held at the close of the regular meeting.